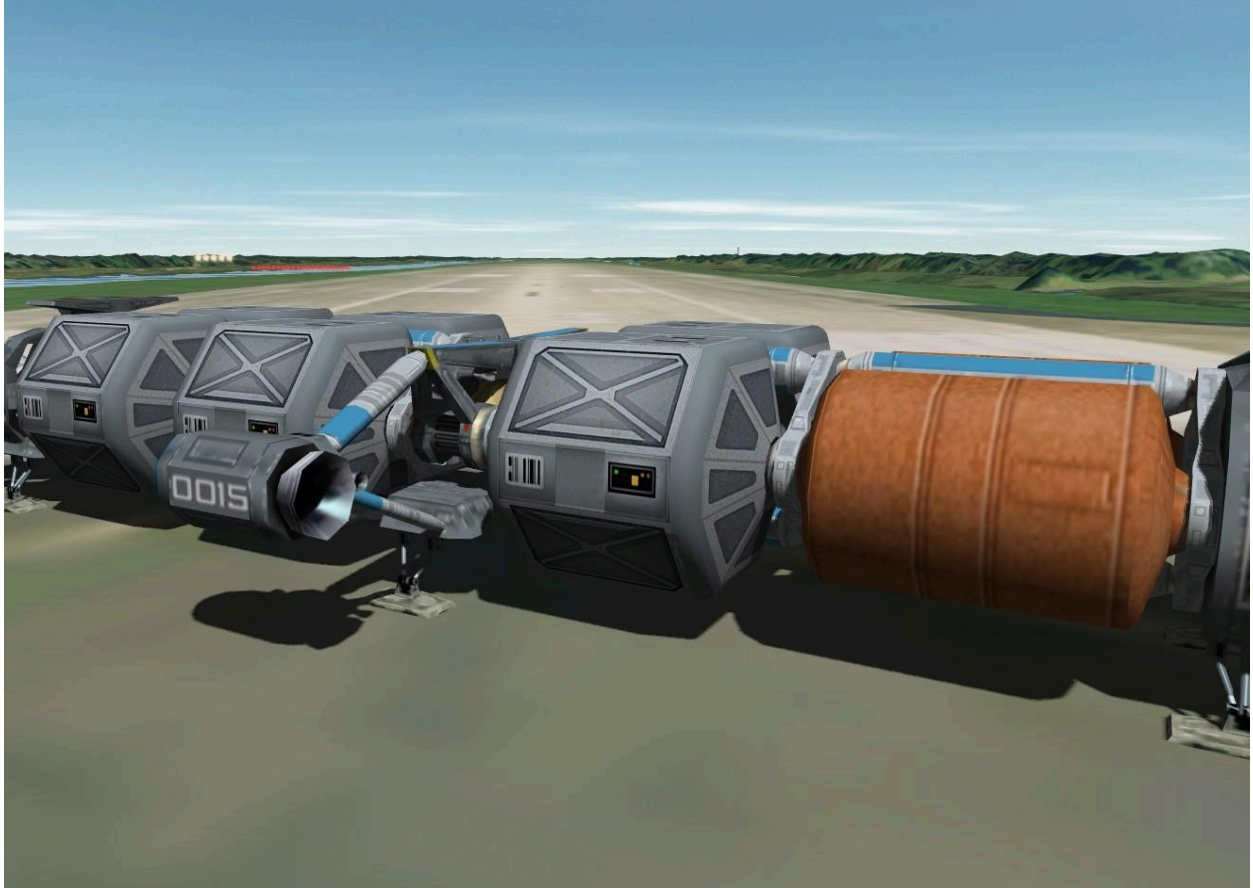


JM_pl

A ShuttleA cargo pod



Introduction

This is an alternative to the original ShuttleA cargo pod, the ShuttleA_pl.

Capabilities

It's a simple thing with no power or controls. Just let it go and it will reenter the atmosphere like a capsule and parachute down.

Instructions (from the Orbiter User Manual)

The Shuttle-A can carry up to 6 cargo containers, each with a mass of $20.0 \cdot 10^3$ kg. The cargo container controls are located in the overhead cockpit panel.

To release a cargo container, first arm the release mechanism (main control switch from SAFE to ARM). Then click on a container position (L/R 1-3) to release it. Empty payload positions are marked with a red border. When done, return the main control switch back to SAFE.

Containers can be released on the ground or during flight. On the ground, make sure to move the landing gear struts to "squatting" position to set the containers down gently. When cargo containers are released in the atmosphere, parachutes will deploy to slow down their descent. If releasing in weightless conditions (in orbit), use RCS to move away from the released container (up or down in linear RCS mode).

Bugs

Don't use more than 10X time acceleration while the chutes are out or things may get wonky.

Although unlikely, it's possible that the JM_pl pod could come down sideways even with the chute deployed.

On Mars the JM_pl pod sways quite a bit on the way down.

Support

Support requests and bug reports should be made at <https://www.orbiter-forum.com/>.

PM's should be directed to "johnnymanly" at that website.

License

MIT License

Copyright 2026 (c) John Frye

Permission is hereby granted, free of charge, to any person obtaining a copy of this software and associated documentation files (the "Software"), to deal in the Software without restriction, including without limitation the rights to use, copy, modify, merge, publish, distribute, sublicense, and/or sell copies of the Software, and to permit persons to whom the Software is furnished to do so, subject to the following conditions:

The above copyright notice and this permission notice shall be included in all copies or substantial portions of the Software.

THE SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED "AS IS", WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND NONINFRINGEMENT. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE AUTHORS OR COPYRIGHT HOLDERS BE LIABLE FOR ANY CLAIM, DAMAGES OR OTHER LIABILITY, WHETHER IN AN ACTION OF CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE, ARISING FROM, OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOFTWARE OR THE USE OR OTHER DEALINGS IN THE SOFTWARE.